

Oct. 22, Sunday, 94  
Wellesley

- I suspect there are many in this group who have reservations about what you have heard said on about Hiroshima or the Enola Gay exhibit or about proposed plans to educate the public - but have been ~~most~~ expressing them (because you think you will be misunderstood, or offend, or not P.C.)

I suspect this would be true of my ~~friends~~ ends have not read the facts in the essays of Alpern or Bird (or Mitchell or Slatin). I invite these guests to be invited.

- Cavans, too, with Ruth Rossen, Slotkin, Kifton, Kai, Eric Markum  
Kathy Bateson Birnbaum

- to Reid: How do you understand events in Rwanda, Bosnia? (Tokyo, Nanjing, Dresden) ~~What~~ How relate to America?

Dyson: We tried to create a piston every time - succeeded only in Tokyo + Dresden - somewhat, Cologne, Berlin.

If the Allies could have killed 6M Germans, they would have done so - before the know of the Final Solution. (instead of only killing 1M Germans + German <sup>or esp. Japanese</sup> <sub>city</sub> civs).

What has Reid/Kifton learned about the importance of historical memory, or responsibility?

(- Mail copy to MBC of minutes

Hitler occurred to some few, on the ground, was more efficient + effective than Allied bombing - the intention was NOT DIFFERENT.

22 Oct 94

Q&A

Hard issues:

to lifter  
jump

1. What if it had been Bombs or firebombs? <sup>(2-12-1)</sup> <sup>50 entry, + amount of Ensign and her trial, + not brought murderer.</sup>  
- prospect of 500K-1M casualties?  
- prospect of 12,000-46,000 deaths (less than Nov.)

2. It was not Bombs (in - August) or firebombs. ~~the Ensign~~  
knew he didn't have to Bomb - in - August or firebombs.

(2) - The Japanese would probably have surrendered on some terms in August or September even if nothing had without Bomb

done diff of earlier.

- SC entry

If right would prob. have done this by Sept-Oct  
in without SC entry & bomb <sup>they would prob.</sup> } - Japanese approach US directly, ask for "minor" (to US) concession  
} - which we would accept.  
(USSSS - "cutting of Dec.") } <sup>Probably no "lives" were saved by bombing in August - nor the was it started by a day or a week.</sup>

They were ready to surrender - only issue was time of when: Ensign....

(b) If there were had been announced earlier - e.g. of May - US lives lost in Okinawa could

still, Japanese would not have permitted - e.g. if successful

conf - ad held out for terms that would have  
protected th from war crimes trials!

- Should Bomb have been used to reject  
the Ang's demands? Or the demands granted,  
to avert Bomb or firebombs?

[Or - was MacLeish + Adm. right - reject Ensign, to him?]

(What of using A-bomb on Kyoto, or Tokyo?)

BB

3. What if choice was: Bomb Tokyo + 18 cities, or Hiroshima?

That ~~it~~ might have been valid — at least, closer —

though it might not have been: Nagy didn't think so [Pac. a Nagy won], prob. right; even AAF friend was mixed but with an AF "success" (M+L).

What would they have said?

- I would say:

- Don't torture — certainly, on that scale.
- Wrong; illegal; (first War, contrary to Geneva)
- and fatal precedent, give MP, nuclear era, TN weapons;
- only US/UK could do that in '45;
- we would never be threatened by non-nuc bombing; but then we, <sup>potential</sup> and now everyone, fear we think for East Asia so very, from actual neighbors or admirers, till bunches of FSU, spread of technology & fins-wat (thats & Atoms for Peace, are enough).

4. To some Americans, Bomb ~~as~~ — or Tokyo — would have been justified to save 1 US life — or, 1000.

For others — us, all of us? — it would not have been justified to save 46,000 US lives. or thousands or 1 million?

5. How about:

- to improve US bargaining position with SU?
- to keep SU out of papers, (Mendelsohn?) (?)
- to justify cost of MP?
- for review? (NOT NEEDED! Fair bucking!)

concl'd?

|| doesn't point  
or we could have  
acted soon then argued

6. - Recognize plausibility of official story.

("like - earth is flat, sun goes around earth...")

Convinced this with: <sup>2)</sup> extreme self-reliant, self-defence, first.

b) Unchallenged official story, lies, stories, for 20 years; (till 1965)

c) Unchallenged media presentation for 49 years!

Challenging this was crazily anti-American prejudice, "ignorant" "extreme" for or anti-American values

'or first War

like challenging (in SU, in CP time brackets) that Bolsheviks had "caused" the Russian Revolution (with the "demands": Land + Peace)  
(or, less: that N had brought about a peace against the December Revolution, instead of of concessions (initial withdrawal, Counter of Revocation/Political terms (the concession: recall Thim, except Thim is from till elections))

(N was using Strookhin Play — including using bombing to intimidate Communists in "postwar" relations, and to cover US concessions. ("Shooting an eye out of the saloon" — the cover story for Cambodia, Laos, etc. ' intend to do what he did do is December — except that he went to shoot his eye back in to saloon, after troops were withdrawn!')

Oct 22,  
Wolffert

- What is to be learned from

- "Crime" (?) of Hiroshima

- AND COVER-UP?

→ Japanese life was dropped to US leaders (and public!)  
but, or dropped - if public wartime attack was ultimate?  
10 bombs? - like China lies to Japanese!  
of March 1945, and certainly of August.

(not: "US lies were extremely valuable" (compared to  
a "small number" of Japanese citizens: \$20,000 + 45,000  
(reality, 200,000 + 100,000)

[see Peleliu, (Okinawa?)

compared to "500k-1M US")

→ To small leaders <sup>10,000 leaders</sup> - as Japanese, Germany, US, UK, US - don't give  
with S.B. cap. or A/H-bombs. SAFER TO BAN THAN TO ALLOW  
- or let the decide, in secret, for us  
or lie + keep secrets.

[Hyp: <sup>(a)</sup> KEEPING MIN DET FORCES WILL LEAD TO SPREAD  
AND USE. (under current conditions)]

(What if: <sup>(b)</sup> attempting to ban?)

Depends on conditions that affect  
effectiveness of ban.

(C) Current approach - must to be spread + use.